

REMARKS

Claim 16 calls for “receiving character set independent information about a participant in an ad hoc wireless network” and “automatically transmitting said character set independent information about a participant to other participants in the ad hoc wireless network.” Neither of these elements are set forth in the reference and nothing in the office action points out anything that could possibly be interpreted as either of these elements.

The cited reference to Reed controls the environment around a personal area network. By “environment” it is intended to call for controlling things like the temperature, humidity, lighting, background noise, announcements that are made in the area, and other such things. There is no receiving of any character set information about the participant. The information that is transmitted over any network is never even discussed.

Equally true, there is no automatically transmitting said character set independent information about a participant to other participants in the ad hoc wireless network. It is noted at the bottom of page 2 and the top of page 3 of the office action that “the conferees could be individuals with disability or foreign language” and that the communication device has “the capability of user environmental preference, in which makes suitable to the participant, for instance, uses symbols or sound or translate language depending the participant preference.” However, the reference’s discussion that sound relates to background noise in the conference room, for example, announcements that are made over the public address system. Likewise, the discussion about language preferences in the reference relates to the language of announcements that are made in the background public address system. The background public address system does not have anything to do with character set independent information about any participant in an ad hoc network. It has nothing to do with providing character set information about such a participant. Moreover, no character set independent information is transmitted to other participants.

Certainly, any information in the background that was transmitted over the network, if this were even possible by chance, is not automatically transmitted. There is no information that the control is transmitted over the network. Instead, it appears to be resident within the system.

Suppose the information that is alleged to be character set independent information is the temperature which one particular user likes in the conference room. If this information were

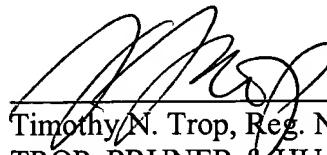
somehow transmitted to an environmental control system over the network, there still is no automatically transmitting of said character set independent information to other participants. For example, referring to Figure 1, the character set independent information is not sent to other participants, it is sent to an environmental control system 140. The environmental control system then controls the condition, such as one set forth in Figure 3, in the room. There is no transmitting of that information to other participants. It is only transmitted to the environmental control system.

Nothing in the material cited in column 3, lines 39-63, or the material thereafter, suggests that any of the information about environmental conditions is ever transmitted to any participant.

The difference is that in the claimed invention transmits character set information to participants, for example, so that the information can be used to identify the participant. Here, all that is done is preferences that are stored somewhere are transmitted to an environmental control system where a given participant is present. That environmental control information is then used to control the environmental conditions in the area where the individual is present. There is no transmitting of any character set independent information automatically to other participants.

Therefore, reconsideration of the rejections of each of the independent claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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